

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND

\* \* \* \* \* C.R. NO. 20-57-JJM  
\*  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA \*  
\*  
VS. \* JUNE 15, 2022  
\* 11:15 A.M.  
\*  
AKINOLA AKINLAPA \*  
\*  
\* \* \* \* \* PROVIDENCE, RI

BEFORE THE HONORABLE JOHN J. McCONNELL, JR.,  
CHIEF JUDGE  
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

(Arraignment and Change of Plea)

APPEARANCES:

FOR THE GOVERNMENT: MILIND M. SHAH, AUSA  
U.S. Attorney's Office  
50 Kennedy Plaza  
Providence, RI 02903

FOR THE DEFENDANT: JOSEPH J. VOCCOLA, ESQ.  
Voccola Law Associates  
454 Broadway  
Providence, RI 02909

Court Reporter: Karen M. Wischnowsky, RPR-RMR-CRR  
One Exchange Terrace  
Providence, RI 02903

1 15 JUNE 2022 -- 11:15 A.M.

2 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

3 THE COURT: Good morning, everyone. We're here  
4 for an arraignment and a change of plea in the case of  
5 the United States of America versus Akinola Akinlapa,  
6 Criminal Action 20-57.

7 Would counsel identify themselves for the  
8 record.

9 MR. SHAH: Good morning. Milind Shah for the  
10 United States.

11 THE COURT: Good morning, Mr. Shah.

12 MR. VOCCOLA: Good morning, your Honor. Joseph  
13 Voccola representing Mr. Akinlapa.

14 THE COURT: Good afternoon, Mr. Voccola.  
15 Good afternoon, Mr. Akinlapa.

16 THE DEFENDANT: Good afternoon.

17 MR. VOCCOLA: Louder.

18 THE DEFENDANT: Good afternoon.

19 THE COURT: Mr. Akinlapa, Mr. Jackson is going  
20 to swear you in now.

21 (Defendant sworn)

22 THE CLERK: Please state your name and spell  
23 your last name for the record.

24 THE DEFENDANT: Akinola Akinlapa,  
25 A-K-I-N-L-A-P-A.

1 THE COURT: Mr. Akinlapa, you are now under  
2 oath, and that requires you to give me truthful answers  
3 to the questions I ask. If you fail to give me  
4 truthful answers, then the Government could bring  
5 further charges against you, like perjury or giving a  
6 false statement or whatnot. Do you understand that?

7 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

8 THE COURT: If I ask you a question that you do  
9 not understand, just ask me to explain it further or  
10 repeat it, and I'll be glad to do that.

11 And if at any time you want to discuss a matter  
12 privately with your attorney, you let me know, and we  
13 can put you in a confidential breakout room or you can  
14 just mute yourself, either way, in order to talk to  
15 your lawyer; but you just have to let me know you want  
16 to talk to your lawyer. Okay?

17 THE DEFENDANT: Okay.

18 THE COURT: Now, Mr. Akinlapa, we're conducting  
19 this hearing via the Zoom platform remotely because the  
20 Court has determined at times now because of the  
21 pandemic it's not always safe for us to gather in  
22 person.

23 I understand after discussions with your  
24 attorney you agree to proceed via the Zoom platform and  
25 you waive any right to appear in person for this

1 arraignment and change of plea; is that correct?

2 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

3 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Akinlapa, before I advise  
4 you of the charges that the Government has brought  
5 against you, I want to tell you about certain important  
6 rights that you have.

7 First, you have the right to remain silent.  
8 That means you do not have to say anything at all about  
9 this matter to anyone at any time, and you can assert  
10 that right any time that you want to. Even in the  
11 middle of a sentence, you can just say, "I want to  
12 remain silent," and we all must respect that.

13 The important thing, however, for you to know is  
14 that if you do say anything, anything that you say can  
15 be used against you. Do you understand your right to  
16 remain silent?

17 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

18 THE COURT: Okay. Second, you have a right to  
19 counsel at every step of these proceedings. You have a  
20 right to hire your own counsel as you have in this  
21 case, Mr. Voccola; but as you know, if you can't afford  
22 counsel, the Court will appoint counsel for you; and  
23 you have a right to counsel throughout all of the  
24 proceedings. Do you understand that, Mr. Akinlapa?

25 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

1 THE COURT: And you wish to proceed with your  
2 retained counsel, Mr. Voccola?

3 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

4 THE COURT: Okay. Now, you have a right to have  
5 your lawyer present with you whenever the Government  
6 attempts to speak to you. In order to invoke your  
7 constitutional right, all you have to do is say, "I  
8 want my lawyer," and the Government has to stop  
9 interrogating you at that point. Do you understand  
10 that?

11 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

12 THE COURT: Okay. I want to now tell you,  
13 Mr. Akinlapa, about the nature of the charges that the  
14 Government has brought against you. They brought a  
15 two-count Information against you charging you with,  
16 one, enticement of a minor to engage in illicit sexual  
17 activity and, second, possession of child pornography.

18 Mr. Voccola, have you and your client received a  
19 copy of the Information?

20 MR. VOCCOLA: Yes, your Honor.

21 THE COURT: And have you reviewed the charges  
22 with Mr. Akinlapa?

23 MR. VOCCOLA: Yes, your Honor.

24 THE COURT: And do you believe he understands  
25 the nature of those charges?

1 MR. VOCCOLA: I do believe that, your Honor. He  
2 does understand.

3 THE COURT: Okay. Now, Mr. Akinlapa, the two  
4 counts, I'm not going to -- well, maybe we just will.  
5 Count I charges enticement of a minor to engage in  
6 illicit activity.

7 That alleges that on or about February 27th in  
8 2020, in Rhode Island and elsewhere, you, using a  
9 facility or means of interstate or foreign commerce,  
10 knowingly persuaded, induced, enticed or coerced a  
11 particular individual who was under the age of 18 to  
12 engage in sexual activity which any person -- for which  
13 any person can be charged with a criminal offense,  
14 including production of child pornography. That's  
15 Count I.

16 Count II alleges that you possessed child  
17 pornography on or about February 27th, 2020, in Rhode  
18 Island.

19 Mr. Akinlapa, do you understand the charges that  
20 the Government has brought against you?

21 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

22 THE COURT: Was that yes?

23 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

24 THE COURT: Okay. I understand from your plea  
25 agreement that you agreed to waive any right to have

1 your case presented to a grand jury and to be charged  
2 by way of Indictment. I want to review that decision  
3 with you.

4 Has your lawyer told you about your right to an  
5 Indictment by a grand jury? Mr. Akinlapa? Do you want  
6 to discuss the matter with your attorney?

7 MR. VOCCOLA: Your Honor, one moment, please. I  
8 apologize.

9 THE COURT: No worries.

10 (Defendant confers with counsel)

11 THE COURT: Mr. Voccola, you're not muted.

12 THE CLERK: I got it, Joe.

13 (Defendant confers with counsel)

14 THE COURT: Mr. Akinlapa, you've had a chance to  
15 speak with your attorney. The question that I was  
16 asking you is, has your lawyer explained your right to  
17 an Indictment by a grand jury?

18 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, your Honor.

19 THE COURT: And did he answer your questions  
20 about that?

21 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Okay. I want to just briefly review  
23 on the record what that is. You have a right to have  
24 your case presented to a grand jury in the first  
25 instance and to be charged by way of an Indictment.

1           A grand jury is made up of at least 12 people,  
2           and they sit and they listen to the evidence that the  
3           Government would put on in order to prove that there's  
4           probable cause to charge you with a crime.

5           Now, if the Government were to present all of  
6           the evidence to the grand jury and if the grand jury  
7           were to find that there was no probable cause to charge  
8           you, then you could not be charged with that crime.

9           So by waiving your right to a grand jury  
10          presentation, you give up the chance that the jury  
11          might come back and say no probable cause. Do you  
12          understand that?

13          THE DEFENDANT: Yes, your Honor.

14          THE COURT: And based on that explanation, do  
15          you continue to want to waive your right to a grand  
16          jury Indictment?

17          THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

18          THE COURT: Has anyone in any way threatened you  
19          in any way to get you to waive your right to a grand  
20          jury Indictment?

21          THE DEFENDANT: No.

22          THE COURT: Has anyone made any promises or  
23          assurances to you other than what's contained in the  
24          plea agreement in order to get you to waive your right  
25          to an Indictment by a grand jury?



1 THE DEFENDANT: No.

2 THE COURT: This Court finds that your waiver of  
3 a right to an Indictment by a grand jury is made  
4 voluntarily and knowingly.

5 Mr. Jackson, is there a signed grand jury waiver  
6 on the docket?

7 THE CLERK: There is not a signed one, Judge;  
8 but I've prepared one, and I can put it on the screen  
9 for Mr. Akinlapa to agree to an electronic signature.

10 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Akinlapa, we're going to  
11 show you a document. I want you to read it. I want  
12 your lawyer to read it. And at the end of it, I'm  
13 going to ask you, if you agree with it, whether the  
14 Court can sign your name to it so the document can be  
15 filed on the record. Okay?

16 So just watch the screen for a minute, and it  
17 will come up, and Mr. Voccola can explain it to you  
18 while you read it.

19 (Pause)

20 MR. VOCCOLA: We've read it, your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Mr. Akinlapa, after reading the  
22 Waiver of Indictment and consulting with your attorney,  
23 do you agree that the clerk's office can electronically  
24 sign your name to that document showing that you're in  
25 agreement with that?

1 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Okay. And, Mr. Voccola, same  
3 question to you, can the clerk's office sign your name  
4 electronically?

5 MR. VOCCOLA: Yes, your Honor.

6 THE COURT: The Waiver of Indictment will be  
7 filed on the record and is, as I said before, accepted.

8 Mr. Akinlapa, I'm going to now turn to the  
9 change of plea section of this hearing, and I want to  
10 begin by noting that there's a plea agreement in this  
11 case that you signed and the Government signed and your  
12 lawyer signed. Do you remember signing that plea  
13 agreement?

14 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

15 THE COURT: And did you sign that plea agreement  
16 after you thoroughly reviewed it with your attorney?

17 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

18 THE COURT: And did you sign that plea agreement  
19 voluntarily?

20 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

21 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Akinlapa, how old are  
22 you, sir?

23 THE DEFENDANT: Twenty.

24 THE COURT: Twenty? And how far did you go in  
25 school?

1 THE DEFENDANT: High school.

2 THE COURT: Did you graduate high school?

3 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

4 THE COURT: Good. And have you been treated  
5 recently for any mental illness or addiction to  
6 narcotic drugs?

7 THE DEFENDANT: No.

8 THE COURT: As you sit here today, are you under  
9 the influence of any medication, drugs or alcoholic  
10 beverages of any kind?

11 THE DEFENDANT: No.

12 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Akinlapa, are you fully  
13 satisfied with the representation that you've received  
14 from your attorneys in this case?

15 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

16 THE COURT: Now, before I ask you about your  
17 change of plea, Mr. Akinlapa, I want to explain to you  
18 certain rights that you have under the Constitution and  
19 laws of the United States; and I want to make sure you  
20 understand that if you change your plea to guilty  
21 today, you're going to give up these rights.

22 So one right you always have, and that's the  
23 right to plead not guilty, which you have done so far  
24 in this case. If you were to continue to plead not  
25 guilty, you'd be entitled to a trial by a jury.

1           At that trial you'd be presumed to be innocent  
2           and the Government would have to prove each and every  
3           element of the charges it brings against you beyond a  
4           reasonable doubt.

5           You would have a right to see and hear,  
6           confront, and your lawyer could cross-examine all of  
7           the witnesses that the Government would put on and  
8           evidence it would put on in order to prove its case  
9           against you.

10          You would also be allowed to put on a defense.  
11          In fact, you could subpoena people. Your lawyer could  
12          require people to come to court to testify in your  
13          defense.

14          You would also be allowed to testify yourself;  
15          but, more importantly, you would not have to testify.  
16          No one could make you testify. And if you chose not to  
17          testify, that could not be used against you in any way  
18          by the Court or by the jury.

19          But, Mr. Akinlapa, if you change your plea to  
20          guilty today to these two counts, you will give up your  
21          right to a trial, there will be no trial, and you'll  
22          give up these other rights that you have that I just  
23          told you about.

24          Do you understand that you have these rights and  
25          that you're going to -- if you change your plea to

1 guilty, you'll give up these rights? Do you understand  
2 that?

3 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

4 THE COURT: Okay. You understand there will be  
5 no trial in your case if you plead guilty?

6 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

7 THE COURT: Okay. Has anyone attempted in any  
8 way to force you to plead guilty or threatened you in  
9 any way to get you to plead guilty?

10 THE DEFENDANT: No.

11 THE COURT: Are you sure about that?

12 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

13 THE COURT: Okay. I just didn't hear you  
14 clearly then. Has anyone made any promises or  
15 assurances to you other than what's contained in the  
16 plea agreement in order to get you to plead guilty?

17 THE DEFENDANT: No.

18 THE COURT: Okay. So are you today knowingly  
19 and voluntarily changing your plea to guilty because  
20 you've made the decision now that it's in your best  
21 interest to do so?

22 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

23 THE COURT: Now, Mr. Akinlapa, I want to tell  
24 you about the maximum penalties that the Court could  
25 impose at the time of sentencing in this case as well

1 as the minimum penalties as to one count. So as to  
2 Count I, there's a maximum term of imprisonment of  
3 life, meaning I could sentence you to a lifetime of  
4 imprisonment, and there's a minimum of 10 years. That  
5 means I will have no choice but to impose 10 years if  
6 you plead guilty to Count I.

7 There's also a maximum fine of \$250,000, up to a  
8 lifetime of supervised release, and there will be a  
9 \$100 and \$5,000 additional mandatory special  
10 assessment.

11 As to Count II, the maximum penalty is 20 years,  
12 the maximum fine is \$250,000, there's up to a lifetime  
13 of supervised release, and there is another \$100 and  
14 \$5,000 special assessment.

15 Now, if the Court were to impose the maximum  
16 sentence in both cases, then the maximum term of  
17 imprisonment is life, the maximum term of -- amount of  
18 fine is \$500,000, there will be a lifetime of  
19 supervised release, and there's a \$10,200 fine as to  
20 the two counts.

21 Do you understand that these are the maximum  
22 penalties that the Court could impose at the time of  
23 sentencing?

24 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

25 THE COURT: And do you also understand that if

1       you plead guilty to Count I, that the Court will be  
2       required to sentence you to at least 10 years of  
3       imprisonment? Do you understand that as well?

4               THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

5               THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Akinlapa, are you a  
6       citizen of the United States?

7               THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

8               THE COURT: As a U.S. citizen, you have certain  
9       valuable civil rights that you could lose if you plead  
10      guilty to these charges because they're felonies. You  
11      could lose the right to vote, the right to hold public  
12      office, the right to serve on a jury and the right to  
13      possess any kind of firearm or ammunition.

14              Do you understand that you could lose these  
15      valuable civil rights if you plead guilty to these  
16      charges?

17              THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

18              THE COURT: Now, there are forfeiture  
19      allegations. Did you discuss the forfeiture  
20      allegations in the plea agreement and in the  
21      Information with your attorney?

22              THE DEFENDANT: I don't remember.

23              MR. VOCCOLA: Your Honor, can I have one moment,  
24      please.

25              THE COURT: Of course you can.

1 (Defendant confers with counsel)

2 MR. VOCCOLA: Your Honor, we're ready.

3 THE COURT: Great. Mr. Akinlapa, has your  
4 attorney discussed the forfeiture allegations contained  
5 in the plea agreement and the Information with you?

6 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

7 THE COURT: And do you understand that by  
8 changing your plea to guilty you're giving up your  
9 right to contest those forfeiture allegations?

10 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

11 THE COURT: Now, Mr. Akinlapa, I want to make  
12 sure you understand how the Court will go about  
13 determining what the appropriate sentence is in your  
14 case.

15 At some point after this hearing, probation will  
16 meet with you. You have a right to have your lawyer  
17 present with you, and I encourage you to make sure your  
18 lawyer is present with you for that interview. It's an  
19 important interview.

20 They'll interview you and then conduct more  
21 investigation in order to prepare a presentence report.  
22 That's a report that's going to give me a lot of  
23 information about you and your background and any  
24 criminal history and the conduct and whatnot, but it  
25 will also calculate the advisory guideline range.



1 Those are guidelines that help the Court determine what  
2 an appropriate sentence is in your case.

3 Now, your lawyer might have told you what he  
4 thinks the guideline range will be, but I haven't  
5 determined that. I won't determine that until the time  
6 of sentencing.

7 Do you understand as we sit here today we don't  
8 know what the guideline range will be in your case and  
9 that I won't determine it until the time of sentencing?

10 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

11 THE COURT: Okay. Do you also understand that  
12 you agreed to waive any right to appeal the sentence I  
13 impose if I impose a sentence that's within or below  
14 the guideline range? Do you understand that as well?

15 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

16 THE COURT: Mr. Shah.

17 MR. SHAH: Your Honor, this may not have any  
18 impact on how the Court proceeds, but the proposed plea  
19 agreement is a C plea.

20 THE COURT: I did not pick up on that, Mr. Shah.  
21 Thank you.

22 MR. SHAH: I'm sorry I didn't advise the Court  
23 earlier. My fault.

24 THE COURT: No, no, no, no, no. It's just my  
25 error in not having picked it up. There we go.

1 Thanks. Hold on one second, then.

2 Mr. Shah, just so I don't take up everyone's  
3 time, explain to me what the relevant sentencing  
4 agreement is that the parties have come to that the  
5 Court will bind itself to if it accepts the plea  
6 agreement.

7 MR. SHAH: One moment, your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Sure. It could be that there isn't  
9 any other than --

10 MR. SHAH: You know, it doesn't look like there  
11 is one.

12 THE COURT: All right. That's fine. I  
13 understand that. There is a waiver, right, and is it  
14 the guideline waiver, Mr. Shah?

15 MR. SHAH: Yes, your Honor.

16 THE COURT: Okay. So I've stated that  
17 correctly.

18 So, Mr. Akinlapa, because this is a binding plea  
19 agreement on me, on the Court, if I were to accept it  
20 and on all the parties, I won't determine whether to  
21 accept the plea agreement until after the presentence  
22 report is issued, and then I'll make a determination  
23 whether to bind myself to it.

24 If I accept the plea agreement, then the Court  
25 will sentence you consistent with that plea agreement.

1 Do you understand that?

2 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

3 THE COURT: Okay. I'm going to ask the  
4 Government now to tell us what the elements of the two  
5 counts are that they brought against you and then to  
6 tell us what facts the Government would prove if this  
7 case were to go to trial.

8 Mr. Akinlapa, I want you to pay particular  
9 attention to the facts, okay, because at the end of  
10 it I'm going to ask you if you admit the facts that  
11 Mr. Shah has stated are true. Okay?

12 THE DEFENDANT: Okay.

13 THE COURT: Mr. Shah.

14 MR. SHAH: Your Honor, as to Count I, the  
15 enticement charge, there are four elements. The first  
16 is that Mr. Akinlapa knowingly coerced the person in  
17 question, whose initials are AP, to engage in sexual  
18 activity; second, that the Defendant did so using a  
19 facility or means of interstate or foreign commerce,  
20 which includes interstate telephone calls or  
21 internet-based communications; three, that the person,  
22 AP, was less than 18 years old; four, the sexual  
23 activity was a criminal offense, and here the criminal  
24 offense would be production of child pornography.

25 Count II is possession of child pornography.

1       There are four elements here: First, that the  
2       Defendant knowingly possessed an account, here an  
3       iCloud account, that contained at least one image of  
4       child pornography and that the Defendant knew that his  
5       account contained at least one image of child  
6       pornography and that the image of child pornography had  
7       moved in interstate or foreign commerce, which includes  
8       over the internet. Those are the elements as to the  
9       two offenses.

10           As to the facts that the Government would prove  
11       were this matter to have proceeded to trial, these  
12       facts which I will set forth, I am reading from  
13       paragraph 4(a) through (e) of the plea agreement.

14           The facts that the Government would prove were  
15       this matter to proceed to trial are as follows: On  
16       February 27th, 2020, using the Discord communications  
17       application, Defendant exchanged text messages and  
18       established a video connection with AP, who is a  
19       10-year-old girl.

20           During the course of the interaction, Defendant,  
21       through coercion, had AP disrobe and perform sexual  
22       acts in front of her computer's video camera all while  
23       Defendant watched and recorded portions on his Apple  
24       iPhone. During the interaction, Defendant was located  
25       in Rhode Island and AP was in her home in Utah.

1           The interaction between AP and the Defendant  
2 started with text messaging during which the Defendant  
3 texted hyperlinks to AP and she used or activated the  
4 links.

5           The interaction subsequently expanded to include  
6 simultaneous video conferencing. Defendant could text  
7 with AP and see her through her computer's camera, but  
8 AP could not see the Defendant. His iPhone's camera  
9 was facing a wall, not him. The interaction also did  
10 not include any voice communications, and verbal  
11 communication was limited to texting.

12           Near the start of the video conference, AP  
13 texted that she was interested in gymnastics and, at  
14 Defendant's request, performed a split and then  
15 headstand in front of her computer's camera.

16           Defendant asked her to remove her clothing down  
17 to her undergarments. When she resisted, the Defendant  
18 threatened to post her address on the internet. He  
19 said that the hyperlink that she had earlier activated  
20 had enabled him to acquire her home address.

21           After the threat, she removed her outer layer of  
22 clothing. Defendant then instructed her to remove her  
23 underwear. She complied. Defendant instructed her to  
24 position herself on her bed and insert a hairbrush  
25 handle into her vagina and anus all in view of her

1 computer's camera.

2 She positioned herself on her bed facing her  
3 computer's camera. In the recording, she appears to  
4 slide a hairbrush handle inside her vagina and then  
5 under her buttocks.

6 As shown in the logs of his text messaging and  
7 in his video conference recordings, Defendant  
8 victimized 14 other females as follows: On an unknown  
9 date, Defendant coerced a pubescent girl to expose her  
10 chest.

11 On June 16th, 2019, Defendant had a pubescent  
12 girl expose her chest and vagina. Defendant instructed  
13 her to insert a plunger into her vagina, and in the  
14 recording she appears to comply.

15 On July 23rd, 2019, the Defendant had ST, who  
16 was at the time eight years old, expose her chest and  
17 vagina and rub her chest.

18 On September 18th, 2019, Defendant, through  
19 coercion, had MJ, who at the time was 11 years old,  
20 expose her chest and vagina. Defendant instructed her  
21 to insert her fingers into her vagina, and in the  
22 recording she appears to comply.

23 On October 28th, 2019, Defendant, through  
24 coercion, had AK, who was at the time 14 years old,  
25 expose her chest and vagina. Defendant instructed her

1 to insert a hairbrush into her vagina, and in the  
2 recording she appears to comply.

3 On December 7th, 2019, Defendant had a pubescent  
4 girl expose her vagina. Defendant instructed her to  
5 insert her fingers into her vagina, and in the  
6 recording she appears to comply.

7 On December 17th, 2019, Defendant, through  
8 coercion, had AA, who was at the time nine years old,  
9 expose her chest. Defendant also attempted to have her  
10 expose her vagina.

11 On February 23rd, 2020, Defendant, through  
12 coercion, had EM, who was 10 years old at the time,  
13 expose her chest and vagina. Defendant instructed her  
14 to insert her fingers into her vagina, and in the  
15 recording she appears to comply.

16 On February 29th, 2020, Defendant, through  
17 coercion, had RS, who was at the time nine years old,  
18 expose her chest and vagina.

19 On March 2nd, 2020, Defendant, through coercion,  
20 had K0, who at the time was 11 years old, expose her  
21 chest and vagina. Defendant instructed her to insert a  
22 brush into her vagina, and in the recording she appears  
23 to comply.

24 On March 31st, 2020, Defendant, through  
25 coercion, had LAH, who at the time was 14 years old,

1 expose her chest and vagina. Defendant instructed her  
2 to insert her fingers into her vagina, and in the  
3 recording she appears to comply.

4 On March 8th, 2020, Defendant had MP, who was at  
5 the time 14 years old, expose her vagina.

6 On May 15th, 2020, Defendant had a pubescent  
7 girl expose her chest and vagina. Defendant instructed  
8 her to insert a brush into her vagina.

9 On April 4th, Defendant, through coercion, had a  
10 pubescent girl expose her chest and vagina. Defendant  
11 instructed her to insert a stick into her vagina, and  
12 in the recording she appears to comply.

13 As shown in the logs of his text messaging and  
14 in video conference recordings, in addition to the  
15 victims identified above, Defendant sought to make  
16 contact and video conference with at least 60 other  
17 females and sought, through coercion, to force them to  
18 perform sexual acts as he watched.

19 In the materials that have been reviewed, the  
20 references to recording refer to Mr. Akinlapa engaging  
21 his iPhone to record what is seen through the victim's  
22 video cameras. Those recordings were saved onto  
23 Mr. Akinlapa's iCloud account.

24 Those are the facts that the Government's  
25 evidence would show, your Honor, were this matter to



1 have proceeded to trial.

2 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Shah.

3 Mr. Akinlapa, you heard the elements of the two  
4 charges that the Government has brought against you. I  
5 again remind you they'd have to prove each and every  
6 one of those elements beyond a reasonable doubt for you  
7 to be found guilty of either or both of those charges.

8 You also heard the facts that the Government  
9 says it would prove if this case were to go to trial.  
10 Do you admit the facts that the Government has stated  
11 as true?

12 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

13 THE COURT: Before I ask you about your change  
14 of plea, Mr. Akinlapa, do you have any questions for  
15 the Court or do you want to discuss any matter with  
16 your attorney?

17 MR. VOCCOLA: Do you have a question?

18 Your Honor, if I could have one moment, please.

19 THE COURT: Of course.

20 (Defendant confers with counsel)

21 MR. VOCCOLA: We're ready, your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Mr. Akinlapa, how do you now plead  
23 to the two counts contained in the Information that the  
24 Government has brought against you, guilty or not  
25 guilty?

1 THE DEFENDANT: Guilty.

2 THE COURT: The Court has heard from the  
3 Government the evidence it would present if this matter  
4 were to go to trial.

5 The Court has questioned Mr. Akinlapa about his  
6 understanding of the nature of these proceedings and  
7 the consequences of entering a plea of guilty to the  
8 charges.

9 It is, therefore, the finding of this Court in  
10 the case of the United States versus Akinola Akinlapa  
11 that Mr. Akinlapa is fully competent and capable of  
12 entering an informed plea, that he is aware of the  
13 nature of the charges and the consequences of the plea  
14 and that the plea of guilty is a knowing and voluntary  
15 plea supported by an independent basis in fact  
16 containing each of the essential elements of the  
17 charge. And, therefore, the plea is accepted, and  
18 Mr. Akinlapa is now adjudged guilty of those offenses.

19 Sentencing will be set down for September 22nd  
20 at 11:30. September 22nd at 11:30.

21 Mr. Shah, anything further for the Government?

22 MR. SHAH: Nothing further, your Honor. Thank  
23 you.

24 THE COURT: Thank you.

25 Mr. Voccola, anything further for Mr. Akinlapa?

1 MR. VOCCOLA: No, your Honor. Thank you.

2 THE COURT: Mr. Akinlapa, the conditions that  
3 were placed on you at the time of your release when you  
4 were originally arraigned remain in full force and  
5 effect. Do you understand -- until the time of  
6 sentencing. Do you understand that?

7 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

8 THE COURT: Okay. With that, we'll stand  
9 adjourned. Thank you, everybody.

10 (Adjourned)

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C (e) R T I F I C A T I O N

I, Karen M. Wischnowsky, RPR-RMR-CRR, do hereby certify that the foregoing pages are a true and accurate transcription of my stenographic notes in the above-entitled case.

February 13, 2023

Date

/s/ Karen M. Wischnowsky

Karen M. Wischnowsky, RPR-RMR-CRR  
Federal Official Court Reporter